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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Nils Virving

International Application No.:

PCT/SE2003/001928

International Filing Date: December 11, 2003

For: REFINING ELEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to initiation of the prosecution of the aboveidentified pending U.S. patent application, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.